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Central Intelligence Agency

85-2487/4

Washington, D.C. 20505

08 AUG 1985

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I have asked the Agency's Information and Privacy Coordinator to check on the status of your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request. He assures me that it is in its proper place in the processing queue and is now being worked on by the people responsible for reviewing our Office of Strategic Services records. I wish I could be more helpful in expediting the process but, as I mentioned in my letter to you of 4 May 1983, consistency in the treatment of our numerous FOIA requesters is the basis of our legal position in handling the Freedom of Information Act. Thus, we cannot process your request out of queue.

Sincerely,

/s/ William J. Casey

William J. Casey
Director of Central Intelligence

IPD 25 July 1985 STAT
RETYPED EXO/DDA:jal: 26 July 1985

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The Director of Central Intelligence

Washington D C 20505

Executive Registry

85- 2735/1

16 July 1985

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[redacted]

Sorry to hear that you have received no information on the Dawes story. I don't know why that should be and I am asking the people responsible here to check on the status of your request and get whatever information is available to you as quickly as they can.

Yours,

William J. Casey

[redacted]

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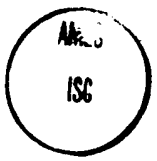

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July 1 1985

Executive Regist
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85- 2735

Dear Col. Bill --

85-2487

I'm sure you'll recall my original request for simple bios on those members of the OSS Missions in Slovakia other than Holt Green, Jim Gall, my Bari apartment -mate Joe Morton of AP, and those I'd interviewed (Steve Catlos, Ken Dunlevy, Maria Gulovich).

At the time I was informed that I would simply have to take my place in line, for routine FOI requests, and you advised me that counsel prevented you from making an exception. I was tol by your associates it might take two years.

More than two years have passed and I have heard nothing, so I'd appreciate your checking into what happened.

I am still struggling with my book (which covers much more than World War II, indeed covers half a century as a journalist), handicapped by the fact that my wife is virtually helpless from Alzheimer's disease. (We just had our golden wedding, but she really knew nothing about it.)

However, my great familiarity with the whole Dawes story caused

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During the time I was [redacted] in Istanbul (Fall '43 my best friend was Capt [Victor Emanuel] Voska, who, as Masaryk's deputy in the U.S. [in 1916] organized perhaps the greatest espionage ring of all time with Czech and Slovak and other minority nationals of the Austro-Hungarian consulates and Embassy. He was responsible for Capt. Von Papen's expulsion as the Kaiser's military attache [in Washington]; in 1943 he was again up against Von Papen, now [Hitler's] ambassador.

I did not know until last year that Tom Jakes, who organized the Slovak missions, had married Victor's daughter. Had I known I would [certainly] have sought him out in Bari when I was news [redacted] (had I done so, I'd probably [have] gone in for the story).

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Nor did I know, until locating Jakes' widow in California, that Victor went back to Prague after the war, gave up his U.S. citizenship bestowed by President Wilson, and in 1950 was imprisoned by the Communists, sentenced to 10 years, did not get out intil 1960, broken in health, and died shortly after. If there is anything about this case that can be provided me (even if not printable) I'd appreciate learning it if only to fill in the gaps. The surpassing irony is that the Nazis also imprisoned him, smashed his bust in the Prague Hall of Fame, and, after his escape to work for us, tortured his son to death. In a nutshell his tragedy sums up the tragedy of our times.

Ever yours

[redacted]

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Col William J. Casey
Washington

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WILLIAM J. CASEY

DD/A Registry
83-0584/4

O/S Registry
83-1661/1

4 May 1983

[redacted] STAT

Sorry to be so long in answering your letter. I have been away for three of the last five weeks and my mail has piled up.

I really would like to please you, [redacted] STAT but my hands are tied in this. STAT Our lawyers believe it would undermine our whole legal position in handling the Freedom of Information Act if we were to start singling out people and putting them at or near the head of the line. Unless we continue to handle requests on a consistent basis our legal position will be undermined. The best suggestion I can give you is, I believe, that Anthony Cave Brown, the author of the Wild Bill Donovan book, has a great deal of material on DAWES and you can call him at [redacted] STAT and tell him I suggested it.

With every good wish.

Yours,

William J. Casey

[redacted] STAT

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William J. Casey

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